

CLAIMS LISTING

1. (Currently Amended) An impact absorbing body disposed below feet of an occupant
5 of an automobile as interposed between a body panel and a floor covering laid apart
from the body panel toward a cabin, ~~characterized in that the impact absorbing body~~
~~is comprised of:~~

a plurality of load supporting portions [[,]] having V-lettered cross-sections
forming grooves arranged parallel to a face facing toward the cabin of said body
10 panel[[,]];:

~~the load supporting portions [[are]] disposed side by side along the face facing~~
toward the cabin of said body panel; ~~and neighboring load supporting portions are~~
~~connected by a flat-plate-shaped bridge portion.~~

a flat-plate-shaped bridge portion connecting neighboring load supporting
15 portions;

the impact absorbing body made from a material obtained by foaming a synthetic
resin material;

each of the load supporting portion having a thickness of 6 - 15 mm; and
the flat-plate-shaped bridge portion having a thickness of 3 - 15 mm.

20 2. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the neighboring load supporting portions are
connected at ends thereof on a side toward the floor covering by the flat-plate-
shaped bridge portion.

25 3. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, wherein the body panel
below the feet of the occupant has a flat-shaped flat portion and a rising wall
portion extended obliquely upward from a front edge of the flat portion, and
each of said load supporting portions and said bridge portions are disposed over

30 both said flat portion and said rising wall portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, configured such that, when energy absorbed thereby when compressed in [[its]] thickness direction is 30 J, [[then]] the generated responsive load is less than 3.0 kN.

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5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

10 7. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim [[6]] 1, wherein a length of a face facing toward the cabin of said bridge portion in a direction parallel to the face facing toward the cabin of said body panel and also in a direction perpendicular to the groove formed by said load supporting portion is 20 - 50 mm.

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8. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein a wedge angle on a cross-section of the groove formed by said load supporting portions having the V-lettered cross-section is 5 - 60°.

20 9. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said bridge portion is provided therein with a plurality of through holes having a diameter of 5 - 10 mm.

10. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein [[it]] the impact absorbing body is provided by molding an aggregate of cylindrical resin granules produced by foaming a synthetic resin material and forming the foamed material into a cylindrical shape.

11. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that said cylindrical resin granule has its inner face roughened~~
wherein an inner face of the cylindrical resin granule is roughened.

5 12. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10, wherein said
cylindrical resin granule has a hollow portion formed to have a cross-section of an
elliptical shape and the ellipticity of the elliptical shape is 10 - 70%.

10 13. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10, wherein a majority of
said cylindrical resin granules within said impact absorbing body are arranged to be
out of alignment with a thickness direction thereof.

15 14. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that wherein [[it]] the impact absorbing body is configured to have~~
an air permeability of 2.0 cc/cm²/sec or above ~~in accordance with JIS L1096.~~

20 15. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that wherein~~, in a state where said impact absorbing body is
laminated on a face facing toward outside the automobile of said floor covering, a
laminate of said floor covering and said impact absorbing body is configured to
have a permeability greater than 0 cc/cm²/sec and smaller than 90 cc/cm²/sec.

25 16. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10, wherein a face facing
toward outside the automobile of said impact absorbing body is roughened.

17. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that wherein [[it]] the impact absorbing body is provided by~~
molding an aggregate of cylindrical resin granules into a form having concavities
and convexities on a face thereof facing toward outside the automobile and [[it]] has

a felt laminated on the concaved and convexed face facing toward outside the automobile.